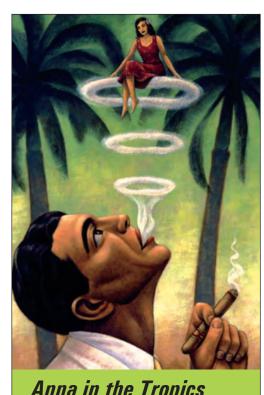
# WHAT'S NEWS @ Rhode Island College

Campus **Activities Day** a student organization showcase Campus Activities Day, an annual RIC event, was held on the quad on Sept. 17. The festival-style fair featured exhibits of dozens of student clubs and organizations looking to recruit new members, and also included other student-related offerings.

RIC freshman Toby Bradshaw shows he can juggle more than just schoolwork at Campus Activities Day held on Sept. 17. For more photos of the day's events, see page 16.



Anna in the Tropics arrives at RIC next month

## WN Quotes.

"I treat improvisations iust like classical music -I keep the spirit but play the notes exactly as they are on the record."

- Pianist Steven Mayer, who will perform at RIC on Sunday, Nov. 9, as part of the College's Performing Arts Series. [P 10]

"Students will be excited to learn about spin when they realize it relates to curve balls."

– Robin Kirkwood Auld, RIC associate professor, who along with three other RIC educators, helped design a K-8 curriculum guide using baseball as a teaching tool. [P 14]

## RIC, URI receive \$12.5 million **National Science Foundation grant**

Established in 1980 Circulation over 52,000

**By Rob Martin** Managing Editor

A project based at Rhode Island College and the University of Rhode Island to improve science learning at the middle and secondary levels in Rhode Island has received a \$12.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) – the largest such grant ever awarded in Rhode Island. The project will be administered in schools statewide through the newly established Rhode Island STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) Center at RIC.

The NSF grant, awarded to RIC and URI, is the first large-scale funding under the umbrella of the STEM Center. It was one of only 23 out of a pool of 181 proposals to receive NSF grants, and it was the largest of the four that received funding of \$12 million or more.

"This is a statewide project that will serve as a model for the whole nation," said Glênisson de Oliveira, associate professor

**Patriotic** 

issues:

celebration

and serious

of chemistry at RIC and a lead principal investigator on the project, known at RITES (Rhode Island Technology Enhanced Science).

Gov. Donald L. Carcieri announced the grant award at a ceremony at Johnston Senior High School on Sept. 25.

Carcieri commended the state's higher education institutions for establishing a "great sense of camaraderie" and "aggressively collaborating" with Rhode Island's K-12 school system.

The RITES project seeks to enhance the quality of science teaching and learning at Rhode Island's middle schools and high schools and increase the number and diversity of students who are proficient in science and who pursue STEM-related careers.

The timing for the project "couldn't be better" said Carcieri. Last month, the results of Rhode Island's first state assessment in science Cont p 12 at grades 4, 8 and

AMERIC **DebateWatch** town hall meeting

By Hillary Feeney '10 Staff Writer Chico State Exchange Student

Colorful streamers draped the walls and star-shaped confetti glittered on top of red, white and blue clothed tables. A purple halfelephant, half-donkey character, which represented a cross between the two major political parties, paraded around the room to pop music from the disc jockey.

This was the scene Sept. 26 when DebateWatch 2008 brought over 400 Rhode Island College students, staff, local politicians and media guests together in a town hall forum to discuss their expectations of the first presidential debate, which they viewed later that evening.

"As we all know the race is close and the stakes are high,"

Donovan Dining Center was the site of DebateWatch 2008, which featured a televised presentation of the Sept. 26 presidential debate between John McCain and Barack Obama.

said RIC President Nancy Carriuolo as an introduction to the town hall meeting. "Millions of viewers across the country will tune in seeking information that could decide their votes, and consequently the future of our great nation."

Bill Rappleye, political reporter from WJAR-10, doubted that the Cont p 15 issues discussed



Karen Almeida '94, assistant professor of chemistry (second from right), and RIC students, from left, Priscila Falcao, Krystal Bergeron, Yvonne Chekaluk and Eileen Murphy at Washington, D.C.'s Einstein statue.

## RIC students attend national IDeA symposium in Washington, D.C.

By Marah Roach '09 Staff Writer

For three faculty members and seven students of RIC's biology and physical sciences departments, the National IDeA symposium offered an environment where ideas were shared and new ones were formed. The students learned from the best in their fields and interacted with others with similar interests in science.

One went home with a special award in recognition of the work she submitted.

The 2nd Biennial National IDeA Symposium of Biomedical Research Excellence was held in Washington, D.C., from Aug. 6-8. The event showcased the scientific accomplishments of the IDeA program. IDeA is an acronym for Institutional Development Award.

Two main components of the IDeA program are the Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) and the IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE). COBRE entities focus on the career development of young investigators and researchers. INBRE includes statewide research networks that promote increased research in schools and research institutions.

display their poster at the IDeA symposium.

RIC attendees included students Nicole Gadbois, Jose Solares, Krystal Bergeron, Priscila Falcao, Yvonne Chekaluk, Eileen Murphy and Joseph Salisbury M '08.

Also present were Karen Almeida, assistant professor of chemistry, Sarah Spinette, assistant professor of biology, and John Williams, professor of chemistry.

Students attended lectures, discussions on science and training, workshops and scientific sessions based on stem cell research, time management, cancer research, scientific writing and other topics. They also presented their research on poster boards to

> a large group of scientists from all over the country.

"I think that the meeting provided the students a wonderful introduction to how scientists communicate their work and their ideas, both in formal lectures and informal one-on-one poster presentations," said Spinette. "I hope that after presenting

RIC graduate Joseph Salisbury M '08 and John Williams, professor of chemistry, their research in this setting, [the

> students] left with the feeling that they are really a part of a large scientific community."

Senior biology major Gadbois received one of several travel awards of \$1,000 that were given to students based on review of scientific abstracts submitted a few months before the symposium. Following graduation, Gadbois plans to do research in a biology lab, and eventually go to medical school.

She and the other students will use what they learned at the symposium to enhance their research in the lab at RIC.



## WHAT'S NEWS @ Rhode Island College

Editor: Jane E. Fusco Managing Editor: Rob Martin Design Manager: Jennifer Twining '92

**Photographers:** Gene St. Pierre '77 Mike Shiel '11 **Graphic Designers:** Lance Gorton '09

Paul J. Silva '03 **Copy Editor:** Ray Ragosta **Staff Writers:** 

Gita Brown Hillary Feeney Marah Roach '09

#### **Public Relations Assistant:**

Alicia Vanasse '08

What's News @ Rhode Island College (USPS 681-650) is published by: Rhode Island College Office of News and Public Relations 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave. Providence, RI 02908

It is published monthly from September to June. Periodicals postage paid at Providence, RI.

Printing: TCI Press, Seekonk, Mass.

#### **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to:

What's News @ Rhode Island College Office of News and Public Relations 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave. Providence, RI 02908

## Deadline:

Deadline for submission of copy and photos is noon the Tuesday two weeks before publication date. Telephone: (401) 456-8090 Fax: (401) 456-8887



The next issue of What's News will be November 10, 2008

Story ideas are welcome. Call (401) 456-8090 or email rmartin@ric.edu.



The living room of the President's house doubles as part of an art gallery.

## RIC artists find patron in RIC President Carriuolo

By Gita Brown Staff Writer

Art is not what you see, but what you make others see.

Edgar Degas

Rhode Island College now has *two* art galleries on campus. One is Bannister Gallery, created by the art department in 1978 and located in Roberts Hall. The other, situated on the first floor of the President's House, was recently established by President Nancy Carriuolo to showcase the artwork of RIC faculty, staff and students.

"I wanted to share this space with the RIC community as I share my life with the RIC community by living on campus," said Carriuolo. Currently on display are the paintings of Richard Whitten, assistant professor of art.

Whitten is one of many "incredible faculty who are not only outstanding professors but awe-inspiring artists," said Carriuolo. "Richard uses brilliant colors on wood. The result is unique and exciting. His titles are whimsical and serve as a good entry point to the art."

Carriuolo has been a long-time patron of both faculty and student artists at RIC. Over the years she's bought their artwork at annual RIC art auctions and now displays these works in her office, along with the folk art she discovered in her travels to China, Morocco, Egypt, Peru and Midwest and Southwest America.

Carriuolo's love for visual art began in earnest as a college student. She remembered sitting at

a desk in the lobby of the residence hall where she served as resident assistant. She gazed up at a copy of Rembrandt's *Night Watch* and remarked to an art student sitting nearby that she liked Rembrandt's use of dark and light. The art student prompted her to notice more.

"I began with just looking," she said, "but then realized that engaging with a work of art also involves thinking and feeling."

As a graduating senior, Carriuolo traveled to Europe, visiting art galleries and museums. "When my hosts talked about the art, I was fascinated that they saw so much, where my untutored eyes saw so little."

She had the opportunity to manage an art gallery as a dean at the University of New Haven, and she continued to visit galleries and museums around the world.

Already new faculty and their chairs, vice presidents and deans have toured the exhibit at the President's House, along with RIC's National Student Exchange (NSE) students, the coordinator of NSE, assistant director of student activities and Congressman Jim Langevin '90 and his aides.

Members of RIC's community and friends of the College will be able to sample the artistic talent of RIC's community at receptions hosted by Carriuolo, including at some gatherings held specifically to present the art and artist. RIC artists interested in exhibiting their work at the President's House should contact the Department of Art.

## School of Nursing celebration event – Nov. 21 Join the Founders Circle of the Dean's Development Fund!

Everyone is invited to join in the celebration of the establishment of the School of Nursing, its outstanding accomplishments, and to honor alumni and friends who are the inaugural donors to the Founders Circle of the Dean's Development Fund.

On Nov. 21 at 6 p.m., at the Providence Marriott, Orms Street, an hors d'oeuvres reception will begin an evening of inspirational celebration. Reflecting the spirit, commitment and pride of its friends and alumni, the dinner program will recognize the importance of the School of Nursing as a vital resource providing quality and equitable health care for all people.

The School of Nursing Advisory Board, comprised of volunteer community leaders, alumni, faculty and staff, created a fundraising subcommittee, chaired by Sandra Zion Hamolsky, to plan the celebration and initiate the Founders Circle.

The Founders Circle of the Dean's Development Fund was started for the purpose of making funds available to assist

faculty and students in activities such as pursuing research and practice projects focused on improving the quality of care, further developing expertise with cutting-edge technologies, providing activities that promote leadership development, and supporting other endeavors to enrich the professional nursing program.

Whether you are recognizing the contributions of our nurses to the

community, renewing your dedication to the nursing profession, or reconnecting as an alum, your gift to the Founders Circle will play an integral role in shaping the future of nursing at Rhode Island College.

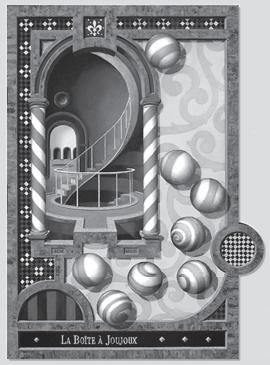
Tickets for the celebration are \$125 per person. For information to purchase tickets and to join the Founders Circle, visit www.ric.edu/nursing or contact Carol Peck, cpeck@ric.edu/(401) 456-8014.



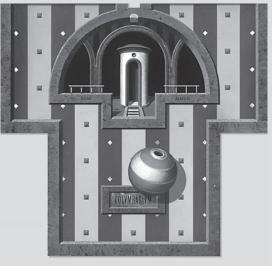
Nursing students gathered at the department's welcoming reception on Sept. 24 to share information with faculty and staff about the 2008-09 academic year.

## Which way? Which way?

Down the rabbit hole with Richard Whitten



LA Boîte à Joujoux (The Toy Box) oil and gold leaf on wood panel 47" x 34"



COLUMBARIUM (DOVECOTE) oil and gold leaf on wood panel 38" x 38.5"

Richard Whitten, assistant professor of art, whose paintings are on display at the President's House until the end of the fall semester, paints on wood panels in brilliant harlequin colors and diamond-shaped patterns. He paints structures and spaces designed to lead the viewer through passageways, corridors or gateways that become portals to other worlds.

With mathematical precision, he manipulates the eye of the viewer, forcing him or her to look down, look around a corner, look around a curve and to feel curious about what is partially hidden there – even if it is only a shadow.

What disorients the viewer are the conflicting cues related to scale. Like poor Alice in Wonderland, one moment the viewer feels dwarfed, the next, like a giant.

Stranger still, the longer the viewer journeys through Whitten's spaces, the more the viewer begins to feel like he or she exists within that space. And when leaving the painting, the viewer experiences a physical sense of transitioning between the world of the painting and the viewer's own world.

RIC President Carriuolo urges the RIC community to come and see the works of this talented RIC faculty member who has held exhibitions at prestigious galleries on the east coast and the northwest.

Whitten recently presented his work at the Attleboro Art Museum's 8 Visions exhibition and shows regularly at the Lenore Grey Gallery in Providence. He has had solo exhibitions at the Frye Art Museum in Seattle, Wash., and at the Newport Art Museum. He is currently working on a solo exhibit at Wheaton College's Beard Gallery. For more on Richard Whitten's work, log on to richardcwhitten.com.

– Gita Brown

## **NEWS FROM THE**

# Foundation & Alumni Offices

# Raising and saving funds to ensure an accessible, quality education for our students: a presidential theme

As the ninth president of Rhode Island College, I am fortunate that my predecessor kept a watchful eye on finances. I am also fortunate that the friends of Rhode Island College have been generous over the years and that our professional staff and volunteer boards have been good stewards. However, President Nazarian cautioned me before retiring that our economic picture was like no other that he had experienced in his long tenure as president.

All of us who love Rhode Island College need to focus on raising new funds and curtailing our spending if we are to maintain the College's mission of providing an affordable, accessible, quality program for our students. Those students will be the future alumni of the College as well as Rhode Island's future professionals. They will be employed in or lead businesses, teach our children, nurse the ill, minister through social work, and engage in a multitude of professions that arise from a background in the arts and sciences. Our students will become taxpayers and engaged citizens as well as patrons of the arts and of services available to educated persons with disposable income. Our student body and our state are depending on Rhode Island College, whose student body is nearly 90 percent Rhode Islanders. As a new president, I am calling for our College community, which extends far beyond the campus, to focus its collective intelligence and energy on devising a series of strategies that will propel us through the difficult financial times that the media are now comparing to the 1930s.

In August, I instituted a Budget Review Committee (BRC), whose suggestions about raising and

savings funds are, in early October, being passed to committees for implementation under the watchful eye of the BRC (whose membership comes from various stakeholder groups on campus as well as alumni and the foundation). Some of the suggestions are largescale in recognition of the fact that RIC has experienced a \$7 million reduction in its current-service-level budget. For example, to increase the numbers of students and tuition dollars, RIC will explore new branding and marketing. Some of our own marketing professors and our alumni are being approached to help with this effort, in keeping with my intention that we tap our own talent, whenever possible. After all, who knows and can, therefore, project the image of RIC best? An out-of-state marketing firm or experts in our own RIC community?

Not everyone can raise funds, but everyone can contribute to the effort to save. In one of my letters to the campus community, I suggested that we can each save \$100 in simple ways, and that individual savings within our campus community of over 900 employees will provide an annual savings of nearly \$1 million. I understand from a staff member that the housekeeper in Craig-Lee has begun turning off all the lights before she goes home as her contribution. I understand also from a student that a neighbor read the article in the Providence Journal about the volunteer staffing of the Unity Center and stopped by to offer his services. We can all make a difference.

The professional fundraisers on campus, of course, are a special resource. As the result of visiting parts of campus and talking with others, I have begun to assemble a



## BY NANCY CARRIUOLO

President, Rhode Island College

list of needs. My cabinet and I will prioritize those needs for use by the professional staff in development of a basic "no frills" development plan by the end of October. The draft will be reviewed by the foundation board and other constituent groups on campus as well as by a professional fundraiser (who is volunteering his services thanks to VP Ivy Locke's outreach to a personal friend).

My inauguration, in order not to distract professional staff from fundraising for the College, has its own fundraising committee. Any funds that remain after expenses are paid will be devoted to completion of an illuminated walkway that will link the main and east campuses with a series of lights and phones. In other words, one inaugural fundraising effort, but two intended outcomes. We need to be efficient.

Of course, some unfunded needs will be more mundane than an illuminated walkway. Supporting these needs requires unrestricted funds, which are dollars not earmarked by the donor for any particular use. What are some lessthan-glamorous needs those modest dollars might support? A student just called today to complain that the carpet in her classroom needs to be replaced. I want to say to students, "I will take care of that problem right away." To do so, though, the College needs funds that can be used for any purpose. I am hopeful that alumni will continue to send us those unrestricted dollars or, perhaps, in-kind donations. For those who cannot afford to make a donation right now, know that we understand and that we also benefit from your kind thoughts and good words about RIC to others in the community. Rhode Island College appreciates our alumni, one and all.

Peg Brown to become higher ed associate commissioner; J.R. Pagliarini appointed interim director of RIC Foundation

RIC President Nancy Carriuolo announced in September that Marguerite (Peg) Brown will become associate commissioner for higher education in Rhode Island following a six-month administrative sabbatical leave to conduct research for the state's Office of Higher Education.

Brown was RIC's vice president for development and college relations since 2000, and had served as director of development since 1995.



**PEG BROWN** 

In those capacities, she also served as executive director of the RIC Foundation.

"Peg has built a sturdy base for the growth of the Foundation and the Development Division," said Carriuolo. "Rhode Island College is pleased to have had these fine years of service."

Carriuolo also announced that John R.

(J.R.) Pagliarini will serve as interim executive director of the RIC Foundation.

Pagliarini is employed by the Rhode Island Office of Higher Education, where, among other



J.R. PAGLIARINI

duties, he is chairman of the Campus Security Commission. He has previously served on the staff of a number of notable Rhode Island political figures. He has also been a lead fundraiser for the ALS Association as R.I. chapter president for the past six years.

Pagliarini received a BA in political science from Fairfield University and a MA in public affairs from The George Washington University.





The RIC Education Alumni Group in partnership with FSEHD held a reception on Oct. 2 for education alumni who have been recognized for their professional accomplishments this past year (e.g., National Board Educators, Teachers of the Year, Milken Award recipient).



Mike Henry, supervising producer and voice actor of *Family Guy*, tells what happens behind the scenes of the popular TV series in an appearance at RIC on Oct. 3.

## Alumni Scholarship Committee awards 140 alumni scholarships

Over \$110,000 in scholarship aid has been awarded to 140 qualified students for the 2008-09 academic year. The scholarship awards were made after the RIC Alumni Association Scholarship Committee reviewed applications last summer. Awards cover the entire year, with half the amount distributed each semester.

Contributions to the RIC Annual Fund made possible the following scholarships:

- Children of Alumni Academic Award three awards totaling \$9,900.
- Alumni Graduate Award six awards totaling \$4,800.
- Alumni Freshman Award given to children and grandchildren of alumni; 54 awards totaling \$23,550.
- Alumni Awards 72 awards totaling \$60,400.

The Financial Aid Office received \$10,000 from the Alumni Association to distribute as deemed necessary. Three Frank and Agnes Campbell Scholarships were awarded totaling \$4,500 (\$1,500 per student). The Andreoli Scholarship was awarded for \$1,700.

• The Class of 1951 awarded \$400.

Your donations to the Annual Fund make these scholarships possible. For information on making a contribution call (401) 456-8827 or give online at www.ric.edu/givenow.

## **FOCUS ON**

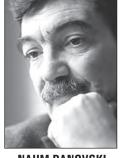
# Faculty & Staff

E.J. Min, professor of communications, has been invited to be a co-editor of a special issue on "Hybridization of Reality: Re-Imagining

Re-Imagining
Communication
Environment in Korea"
for the Asian Journal of
Communication (Routledge).

Koreans have appropriated global goods, conventions and styles, including music, cuisine, cinema and fashion, and inscribe their everyday meaning into them. Now their version of glocalized consciousness is appropriated by neighboring countries (i.e., HanRyu), which have already been appropriating global popular cultural forms to express their local sentiment and culture. The issue aims to improve our understanding of the role of communication in the making of hybridities in Korea through various communication practices such as journalism, interpersonal and organizational relations, PR and advertising, media production/ reception, international/intercultural relations and new communication technologies.

Naum
Panovski,
associate
professor of
theatre and
director of the
MFA program
in theatre and
society, will



NAUM PANOVSKI

be guest artist/faculty at The
Lee Strasberg Theatre and Film
Institute in New York City from
September through December,
teaching performance technique and
working on a production with the
New York University students who
take classes at Lee Strasberg. He
also delivered a paper, "Embraced
by Fortuna: Machiavelli's Influence
on Marin Drzic's 'Uncle Maroje'"
in Split, Croatia, on Sept. 23.

Last summer, Panovski was a teaching artist in residence at the Ninth Annual LaMaMa International Symposium for Directors in Spoleto in Umbria, Italy. Panovski also visited Paris to meet with Eastern European playwrights/practitioners/exiles living and working in Paris to investigate opportunities for collaborations, artist exchanges and residences.

Panovski visited Macedonia to negotiate the terms of a directing project, *Shadows from the Woods*, that will occur in the Balkans in summer 2009, and feature the leading Macedonian actress Mimi Tanevska.

Three sociology and justice studies faculty members delivered papers at the August annual meeting of the American

Sociological
Association
(ASA) in Boston.
Mikaila
Arthur assistant

Mikaila Arthur, assistant professor of sociology, presented her paper, "Framing



MIKAILA ARTHUR

Insider and Outsider Movements:
Choosing and Implementing
Strategies to Change Organizations,"
at a session sponsored by the ASA
Section on Collective Behavior
and Social Movements (CBSM).
Arthur was, in addition, named
current editor of the CBSM section
newsletter, *Critical Mass*. She
also organized an ASA session
on "The History of Teaching
and Learning in Sociology."

**Jill Harrison**, assistant professor of sociology, presented her paper,

"Mental Illness, Substance Abuse and Recidivism among Severely Mentally Ill Inmates," in the ASA Section on Crime, Law and Deviance.

The paper



JILL HARRISON

described her research at Rhode Island's Adult Correctional Institutions (ACI), and, consistent with national studies. found that the mentally ill recidivate more than their non-mentally ill counterparts. She found that they are more likely to lose privileges (such as "good time awards"), and to receive more time in segregation. Her policy suggestions included funding for drug courts and transition homes, and the importance of simultaneously treating substance addiction (i.e., to crack) along with the co-occurring mental illnesses.

Harrison presented another paper at the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, (SSSP), also in August in Boston. This paper, "Prison Stress-Anxiety and Social Support: Data from a Community Based Meditation Program," described her research examining the impact of prison inmate meditation programs.

## Pamela Irving Jackson,

professor of sociology and director

of the Justice Studies Program, discussed her research, "Measuring Muslim Integration in Postindustrial Democracies," at the ASA session titled, "Muslim Immigrants."



PAMELA IRVING JACKSON

This paper has been accepted for publication in the *International Journal of Conflict and Violence*.

She presented another paper, "The Place of Muslims in European Societies: Benchmarking Integration," at the SSSP session, "Globalization, Migration and Economic Diaspora."

At the International Studies Association – West meeting in San Francisco in September, Jackson delivered a paper with Peter Doerschler, titled "The Impact of Host Nation Language Skills on Professional and Social Integration: Germany 2000-2005" at the session on "Culture, Globalization and Hybridization."

Jackson's papers are part of her long-term research effort examining the impact of the securitization of immigration policies on the integration of minorities in western societies.

Judy Titzel and Janet Isserlis, two founding members of the R.I. Adult Education Professional Development Center, recently received lifetime Appreciation Awards from the Adult Education Professional Development Council. They received their awards at the annual Rhode Island Adult Education Conference at the Radisson Hotel in Warwick.

# Athletic News



#### ACROSS THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S DESK



## **BY DONALD E. TENCHER**

Director of Athletics

- Congratulations to head coach John Mello and the men's soccer team, which has been playing very well to date with some hard fought victories. Keep up the good work.
- The College's CHOICES alcohol education program is in full swing with some great speakers lined up for the academic year, along with a number of significant activities. We will introduce our peer mentoring team in the next issue.
- Congratulations to the women's cross country team for winning its own invitational.
   Great job, ladies!
- Homecoming weekend 2008 is in the record books and it was another successful couple of days. Thanks to everyone who participated in all the alumni games, and hats off to Ellie O'Neill and her committees for a job well done!
- It was great to see the renovated Bazar Softball Complex lit up for the first time to host a night game.
- The Athletic Hall of Fame and Recognition
  Dinner, which in addition to inducting the
  eight individuals highlighted in this issue
  and the first team, honored the 2008 NCAA
  World Series softball team and Charlie Wilkes
  for his lifetime commitment to Rhode Island
  College and higher education in Rhode Island.
- The department is extremely proud to have entered into a partnership with Dorcas Place in Providence. Student-athletes and staff will be doing volunteer work there on a weekly basis as well as supporting some special initiatives. Though we are just starting, we hope that this is a long and positive partnership for all involved.
- Get well wishes go out to Jim Adams, longtime men's basketball coach and extraordinary person, who was recently hospitalized. Get well quick, coach!
- I know we have been getting many calls from alumni interested in attending the RIC vs. URI men's basketball game on Friday, Nov. 7, at the Ryan Center. We are currently waiting for URI to finalize its season ticket allocation before getting a complete ticket picture for that evening, but we do have limited information in this issue. Up to-date ticket information will be available on our website in addition to other activities taking place around this historic game.
- Congratulations to former men's basketball coach Mike Kelly, who after a stint at James Madison University, is now the assistant at Bryant University.
- Congratulations to tennis coach Joe Testa '01 and his wife, former track coach Patty Nevola Testa '00, on the birth of their son Luca.
- Finally, congratulations to Hall of Famer Steve Lynch '82 who was recently promoted to major in the Rhode Island State Police. Well deserved!



Cheer on the RIC Anchormen as they battle the URI Rams in an historic men's basketball contest on Friday, Nov. 7, at the Ryan Center in Kingston.

RIC student with valid ID, \$5 | Anchor Club Members, \$7 | Faculty, Staff and Alumni \$9 Please call (401) 456-9698 to purchase tickets.



The RIC 1979 baseball team is officially inducted into the Rhode Island College Athletic Hall of Fame, the first team to receive the honor.



The Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2008 is joined by RIC President Nancy Carriuolo (third from right, first row) and current members of the Hall of Fame.



RIC Athletic Hall of Famers and former softball players Jo-Ann Avedisian '80, '84 (left) and Jennifer Cook Spadoni '00 (right) join Dolores Passarelli '74, RIC director of OASIS to turn on the lights at the first-ever night game held at the Dayna A. Bazar Softball Complex on Oct. 3.



Members of the 2008 softball team receive their rings for reaching the NCAA Div. III Softball Tournament National Championship round, one of the final eight teams in the nation to achieve the feat.



**ROBERT BAYHA** 

Robert Bayha '69, MEd '72 excelled in cross country, track and wrestling from 1966-69. He earned All-Conference honors in track, specializing in the 400 and 800 meters, and was also an All-Conference wrestler at 130 lbs.

The Warwick native coached at Cumberland High School, Bay View Academy and East Providence High School. His teams captured four R.I. state track championships, 13 class titles and 21 division crowns. He is the only coach in the state to win both a girls and boys state championship, and

he owns the most victories in girls interscholastic running sports.

He was named the R.I. Track Coach of the Year six times and the Blackstone Valley Coach of the Year 12 times. Bayha was also an assistant track and cross country coach for six years at the Community College of Rhode Island.

He was inducted into the R.I. Track Coaches Hall of Fame in 1994, the R.I. Cross Country Coaches Hall of Fame in 2001 and the Cumberland High School Athletic Hall of Fame in 2002.

Bayha retired in 2000 after a 31-year career as a physical education teacher for the Cumberland School District. He is currently the director of girls indoor track and field for the Rhode Island Interscholastic League.



AL DEANDRADE

Al DeAndrade '59 starred in men's basketball and soccer at R.I.C.E. from 1955-59. He played freshman basketball at the College in 1955-56, and then moved on to a three-year career as a forward on the varsity team from 1956-59.

DeAndrade was a member of the Men's Athletic Association throughout his collegiate career and went on to serve as the official clock operator for RIC home men's soccer contests during the 1960s. DeAndrade also helped organize and play in many Alumni Soccer Games for over 15 years.

DeAndrade went on to a 31-year career as an elementary school teacher in Central Falls. He served as the president of the Central Falls Teachers' Union for 26 years and was the vice president of the R.I. Federation of Teachers for 20 years and treasurer for five years.

He is also an accomplished trumpet player, having worked as a professional musician since he was 10 years old. He can be currently heard playing trumpet at many Pawtucket Red Sox home games.



**GAIL HENDERSON** 

Gail Henderson '82 played volleyball, basketball and softball while at RIC from 1978-82. She also spent four years as a student athletic trainer, which prepared her for her career.

As a first baseman in softball, the Pawtucket native was a three-time R.I.A.I.A.W. All-Star selection. She was named First Team All-New England as a senior in 1982, batting .345 with 10 runs scored and 10 RBI. Henderson helped lead the Anchorwomen to the E.A.I.A.W. Eastern Regional title contest as a junior in 1981. She

was named to RIC's All-75th Anniversary Softball Team in 2005.

Henderson earned her master's degree in physical education/ athletic training from Indiana State and a degree in physical therapy from the University of Connecticut. She later pursued a certification in canine rehabilitation from the University of Tennessee, becoming one of the first 36 worldwide therapists, and the first in Connecticut, to perform physical therapy on dogs.

She is currently the owner of three companies – Functional Rehab and Fitness, Paws and Paddle Canine Conditioning and Step Rite Orthotics.



**BRADLEY LEVETT** 

**Bradley Levett '93** was an outstanding tennis player for the Anchormen from 1988-92.

The Coventry native compiled a 44-4 career singles record and a 36-3 doubles mark, holding the all-time RIC records for wins in both categories.

Levett captured the Little East Conference Championship at No. 3 singles and No. 2 doubles as a senior in 1992 as RIC won the first of four consecutive conference crowns. Levett was the Little East champion at No. 2 doubles as a junior in 1991.

He posted a 10-1 record in singles

and an 8-1 mark in doubles as a freshman in 1989. Levett was undefeated in both singles and doubles as a sophomore in 1990, posting records of 12-0 and 9-0, respectively.

He was 12-1 in singles and 9-2 in doubles as a junior in 1991, before wrapping up his career with marks of 10-2 and 10-0 as a senior in '92.

He moved on to a career as a teacher in the Exeter-West Greenwich school district, where he has worked for the past 15 years and is currently a sixth-grade teacher.

# **Athletic** Hall of Fame Inductees



**JOSEPH LUZZI** 

Joseph Luzzi '93 was a four-year starter on the RIC's men's soccer team from 1989-92. He totaled 28 goals and 29 assists for 85 career points. Luzzi remains the College's all-time assist leader, while ranking sixth in points and tying for eighth in goals.

The Westerly native totaled eight assists for eight points as a senior in 1992, while posting nine goals and five assists for 23 points as a junior in 1989.

He led the Little East Conference in scoring as a sophomore in 1990 with 13 goals and six assists for 32 points. Luzzi logged six

goals and 10 assists for 22 points as a freshman in 1989.

He was named to RIC's All-75th Anniversary Men's Soccer Team in 2005.

Luzzi is currently an account executive with Advanced Business Machines. Prior to his current position, he was an account executive with the Option One Mortgage Company.



**CHRIS REDDY** 

Chris Reddy '92 was a three-time All-New England athlete who is the only RIC wrestler to be part of five consecutive New England Championship teams from 1988-92. He was named a Div. III Scholar All-American in 1992 and received the John E. Hetherman Award that same year.

The Cranston native earned All-New England honors three times during his career, placing second at 167 lbs. in 1992, fourth at 167 lbs. in 1991 and sixth at 177 lbs. in 1988.

Reddy has gone on to prominence as an

associate scientist in the Department of Marine Chemistry and Geochemistry at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

In 2003, he was awarded the Office of Naval Research Young Investigator Prize, a prestigious award given annually to the nation's best and brightest academic researchers. Reddy has provided expert testimonies on oil spills for the U.S. Congress, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the United States Coast Guard.

Reddy received RIC's American Institute of Chemists Award in 1992 and was named to the RIC's Alumni Honor Roll in 1998.



**LEN SILVA** 

Len Silva '87 was a standout second baseman and shortstop at RIC from 1984-87.

The Seekonk, Mass., native played in 101 career games, finishing with a .362 career batting average and 64 stolen bases, the most in College history.

He earned All-New England honors as a junior in 1986, when he played in 30 games, totaling 32 runs scored, 40 hits, a .354 batting average, seven doubles, two triples, eight home runs, 19 RBI and 24 stolen bases.

As a sophomore in 1985, Silva played in

25 games and hit .380.

Silva was named to RIC's All-75th Anniversary Baseball Team in 2005, which included the top 19 players in the history of RIC baseball.

He is currently vice president and regional business banking officer for Citizens Bank, a company he has been with for over 12 years. He is also president of the Seekonk Little League.



**MELISSA VERESKO** 

Melissa (Andrescavage) Veresko '95 was a center on the RIC women's basketball team from 1990-94. The Chepachet native played in 88 career games, totaling 762 points, 599 rebounds, 52 assists, 32 blocks and 42 steals in her fouryear career as an Anchorwoman. Veresko ranks fourth all-time at RIC in career rebounds.

As a senior in 1993-94, Veresko played in 27 games, averaging 11.3 points and 8.3 rebounds per game. In her junior year, she played in 18 games, averaging 8.7 points and 7.9 rebounds

per game. As a sophomore, she played in 24 games, averaging 11.3 points and 8.4 rebounds per game, and while a freshman, she played in 19 games, averaging 1.5 points and 1.5 rebounds per game.

She was named to RIC's All-75th Anniversary Women's Basketball Team in 2005.

Veresko is currently a social worker with St. Antoine's Residence in North Smithfield.

## **RIC** Art & Entertainment



# Wednesday CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES CONCERTS

Oct. 29 Nov. 19



The four-part Wednesday Chamber Music Series, which began Sept. 17, will feature three upcoming concerts in the theme "Celebrity Series: Classics to Cabaret."

Judith Lynn Stillman, artistic director of the series and RIC's artist-in-residence, will perform in two of the concerts.

Each 50-minute recital is free of charge, and will be held on Wednesday at 1 p.m. in the Nazarian Center's Sapinsley Hall. A question-and-answer session with the artists follows each performance.

The Aurea Ensemble performs Music and Poetry on Oct. 29. Actor Nigel Gore, violinist Charles Sherba, violist Consuelo Sherba, and harmonica virtuoso Chris Turner combine talents to create a unique mix of poetry, drama, epistles, puppetry, and classical and folk music.

Cellist Michael Reynolds of the Muir String Quartet and pianist Stillman will perform in the concert Bravo Beethoven

on Nov. 19. Reynolds tours North America and Europe annually, and is a professor at Boston University, where he has been in residence since 1983.

On Dec. 10, the series will conclude with Folk Dance and Cabaret: Bartok and Poulenc. Stillman will be joined by flutist Paula Robison, who has been hailed as "an absolute wonder" by The New York Times.



## Halloween Collage Concert – October 31

This annual event – held this year on Oct. 31 at 8 p.m. in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall – will offer a variety of ensembles including brass, vocal, woodwind, dance and percussion groups. Performers will appear in costume, and the audience is also encouraged to dress in the spirit of Halloween. General admission is \$10, but free for those in costume.

## ANNA TROPICS ARRIVES AT RIC NEXT MONTH

The RIC Theatre presentation *Anna in the Tropics* by Nilo Cruz will run Nov. 12-16 in the Nazarian Center's Forman Theatre. Shows are at 8 p.m., Nov. 12-15, with 2 p.m. matinees on Nov. 15 and 16.

The play, set in Tampa, Fla., in 1929, looks at workers in a cigar factory and the lector who reads them novels and news, amid economic hard times and fading traditions.

The lector, whose readings include Tolstoy's Anna Karenina, offers a vivid and emotional reminder of a world beyond the workers' own, in which the possibilities seem so much wider.

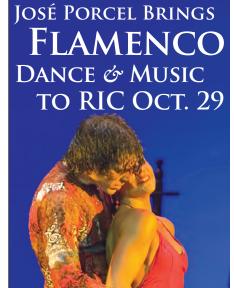
Anna in the Tropics received a Pulitzer Prize in 2003. Cruz said that he wrote the play

in the hopes that audiences will leave more aware of the importance of art, literature and fiction in our lives.

The play was first staged in 2002 at the New Theatre in Coral Gables, Fla., where Cruz was playwright-in-residence.

Nehassaiu deGannes, RIC assistant professor of theatre, will direct the RIC production. The Providence resident holds an MFA from Brown University, and is also a graduate of the Trinity Rep Conservatory.

Tickets are available at the Roberts Hall Box Office. Prices are \$15 general admission, \$12 for senior citizens and \$5 for students with proper ID. For more information, call (401) 456-8144.





Compañia Flamenco José Porcel, celebrated throughout the world as the greatest export of the new flamenco, will perform at Rhode Island College on Wednesday, Oct. 29.

The concert, a RIC Performing Arts Series presentation, will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium in Roberts Hall.

Porcel and company provide a fiery blend of dance, music and fervor that exudes the spirit of the Spanish people. Live musicians, vocalists and dancers bring this tradition vibrantly and colorfully to life.

The company was founded in Madrid, Spain, and has toured across the globe for many years as one of the premier dance troupes to exhibit this exciting art form.

Tickets for Compañia Flamenco José Porcel are \$35, with discounts for seniors, RIC faculty/ staff/students/alumni, and children. For your convenience, tickets can be purchased as follows: in advance via Visa or MasterCard by calling (401) 456-8144 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays; online at www.ric.edu/pfa; or in person at the Roberts Hall Box Office, which will open for sales two hours prior to performance start time.



Brian Shure. Museum Steps 36, 2008.

# BRIAN SHURE'S PAINTINGS ON EXHIBIT AT BANNISTER NOV. 6-26

In Bannister Gallery's upcoming exhibit *Brian Shure: Recent Paintings*, the artist takes up the way people fit into and use architectural spaces. His works will be on display from Nov. 6-26. An opening reception will be held on Nov. 6 at 5 p.m.

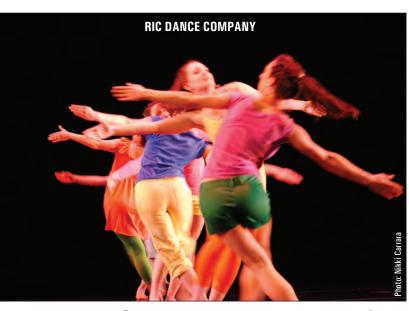
Shure says of his approach, "I am a craftsperson, an artist, before I am a cultural anthropologist or whatever other term might describe someone who carries out this kind of study. We observe images with a different level of attention when we look at the rendering of people than when we look at the rendering of architecture, and I am fascinated with the way different levels of resolution in representing these interwoven subjects color our perception of them when they appear in the same image. We read the static, simultaneously available surface of a drawing or painting

very differently from the way we interpret what we see happening in the space in front of us."

Calling attention to the play of light on the built environment has been Shure's subject matter for the past 15 years. In his newest works, the difference between acceptable levels of resolution for people and buildings has increasingly become a central concern.

This exhibition is curated by Richard Whitten, RIC assistant professor of art.

Gallery hours during exhibits are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursdays, noon to 9 p.m. Closed weekends and holidays. Exhibits and events are free and open to the public. Accessible to persons with disabilities. For information on event dates and exhibit opening receptions, check the website at www.ric.edu/ Bannister/ or call (401) 456-9765.



Free RIC Dance concerts for youngsters Oct. 22-24

ree-admission events

Local schoolchildren in grades K-12 will be treated to the RIC Dance Company's Annual Mini-Concert Series from Oct. 22-24 at 10 a.m.

Offered free to children in Rhode Island and nearby Massachusetts since the 1960s, these 45-minute dance performances and demonstrations provide young audiences with an informative and enjoyable introduction to contemporary dance forms. Repertory selections will include works by NYC - based Gus Solomons, jr, alumni Kellie Ann Lynch as well as local choreographers Eva Marie Pacheco, Michael Bolger and Katie McNamara. For information or to reserve space for your group, contact Angelica Vessella, managing director, at (401) 456-9791 or acardente1@ric.edu.

Celebrated novelist **Edmund White** reads from his work on Tuesday, **October 14**, at 8 p.m. in the Nazarian Center's Sapinsley Hall.

The RIC Jazz Workshop Combos Performance, directed by legendary saxophonist and RIC educator Greg Abate, will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 15, at 7 p.m. in the Nazarian Center's Forman Theatre.

The **Faculty Recital**, sponsored by the Music, Theatre, and Dance Department will take place On Thursday, **Oct. 16**, at 8 p.m. in the Nazarian Center's Sapinsley Hall.

On Nov. 16, the RIC Chamber Orchestra and String Chamber Ensembles collaborate with student soloists under the direction of John Sumerlin, RIC professor of music. The concerts will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Nazarian Center's Sapinsley Hall.

# Associate professor Karl Benziger entertains the crowd with his guitar solo. Above, students Mohsin Siddiqui (left) and Nick Hurley (right) perform.

At left are two members

Anthony Mattera on guitar

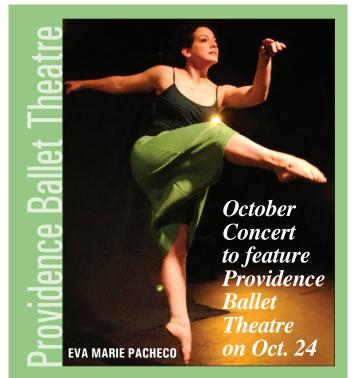
of the band Shryne,

and Jeff Cruz on drum.

## **Concert Cancellation**

.....

The RIC High School Invitational Choral Concert scheduled for Nov. 7 has been canceled.



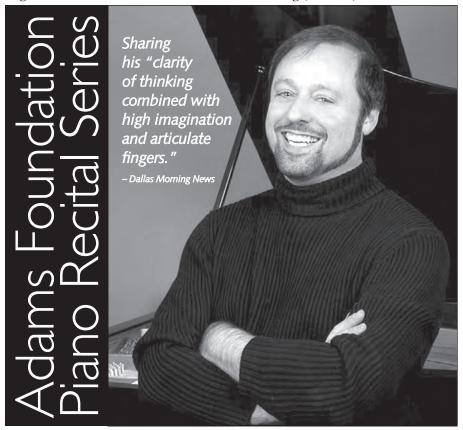
The RIC Dance Company's October Concert with Providence Ballet Theatre will be held on Friday, Oct. 24, at 8 p.m. in the Nazarian Center's Sapinsley Hall. This performance marks Providence Ballet Theatre's first professional concert and will feature the works of Eva Marie Pacheco and Michael Bolger.

Pacheco has been the owner and director of Providence Ballet (www.providenceballet. org) for 13 years as well as its satellite school Providence Ballet @ Aim High Academy in East Greenwich. She joined the dance faculties of RIC in 2004 and Brown University this year. Pacheco is also the artistic director of the *Providence Youth Ballet*, which made its performance debut at the Greenwich Odeum in the spring of 2004.

A Rhode Island Native, Pacheco is currently performing with the Island Moving Company (IMC) of Newport, and can be found working with Colleen Cavanaugh of Providence and carolsomersDANCE of Boston.

She was a founding member of Festival Ballet under the direction of Christine Hennessey and Winthrop Corey, and also toured with the Everett Dance Theatre in *The Science Project* and *Body of Work*. As a choreographer, she has created several works for Festival Ballet, including *Los Caminos* and *In the Mood*, and for IMC, most recently, *Je Ne Regrette Rein*. Pacheco's first full-length ballet, *Twas the Night before Christmas*, premiered in December 1995 with IMC. In the winter of 2002, she was instrumental in mounting *A Newport Nutcracker* at Rosecliff for IMC.

General admission for the October Concert is \$14, with discounts for groups, senior citizens and students. Call (401) 456-9791.



## Pianist Steven Mayer presents a different take on American music Nov. 9

**By Ray Ragosta** Staff Writer

Steven Mayer is a pianist on a mission. And that mission is to make sense of American music.

American music has benefited from a close association between its serious and popular sides. Sometimes a figure inhabits both sides successfully; for instance, Leonard Bernstein, who composed such larger-scale "classical" works as the Kaddish Symphony as well as the musical theatre hit West Side Story.

Duke Ellington, in his suite *Such* Sweet Thunder, which was prompted by his reaction to Shakespeare's characters, employed shifts and contrasts not possible in a threeor four-minute jazz composition and heightened complexity of feeling and dramatic effect.

Considerations like these could well be on Steven Mayer's mind when he programs a recital like the one he will give at Rhode Island College on Sunday, Nov. 9, at 2:30 p.m. in the Nazarian Center's Sapinsley Hall. Mayer will appear at RIC as part of the College's Performing Arts Series.

What's unique about a Mayer recital is that he places works from the European classical repertoire alongside American musical compositions, both popular and serious, and in doing so urges listeners to reevaluate the music.

Citing one connection between the two musics, Mayer said, "European and American piano music share a virtuoso element. They take advantage of all elements of the keyboard."

In the name of virtuosity, Mayer has taken some daring leaps. Playing both roles himself at Alice Tully Hall, he re-enacted the famous 1837 duel between Franz Liszt and Sigismond Thalberg, probably the

two greatest virtuoso pianists of the mid-19th century, and made a recording based on the contest.

One of those pianists, Liszt, will figure in the first half of Mayer's recital at RIC, when he performs the composer's transcription of the overture from Weber's opera Der Freischütz, "not one of the most played pieces," according to Mayer but one he knows well as he is recording it for Naxos, along with some transcriptions of Wagner.

Mayer will also include one of Robert Schumann's more challenging works, Carnaval, in which a masked ball serves as the stage for a number of succinct musical portraits of real and fictional characters, including Chopin, Paganini, Pierrot, Harlequin, Chiarina, a name for Clara Wieck whom Schumann eventually married, and Ernestine von Fricken, his love at the time he wrote the piece.

The second half of the program will concentrate on American music from the Civil War to jazz and will open with the music of Louis Moreau Gottschalk, who composed his most popular pieces in the mid 1800s.

"Gottschalk was called the American Liszt," Mayer commented, "and he was known for flashy, virtuoso music with an American flair that was rhythmic and appealing.

"He also met and performed for Chopin and Berlioz [in Europe]."

Gottschalk was pretty much a star in his day. He toured the U.S. giving concerts all over, even in frontier towns, and wrote an account of his travels. Gottschalk experienced some of the annoyances of fame, too. The critic Wilfred Mellers said of Gottschalk, "Women fought to touch him, to tear tatters off his clothing, even to uproot locks of his hair."

Like his European counterparts, Gottschalk often incorporated dances and folk elements into his compositions; for instance, Chopin's mazurkas and polonaises come to mind. Mayer noted that Gottschalk's Souvenir de Porto Rico, which is on the RIC program, is based on a local Christmas carol.

Mayer will also sample a long line of African American pianists and composers in the jazz tradition, beginning with Scott Joplin and continuing on to Jelly Roll Morton, called the first important jazz composer; James P. Johnson, who wrote the famous dance tune The Charleston as well as symphonic music; and ending with Art Tatum.

Scott Joplin is the most famous exponent of ragtime, which had its heyday in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

"Early ragtime," Mayer noted, "sounded somewhat like classical. We know little of it, though quite a bit of it was published. It also made use of European dances, such as the quadrille."

Recalling a time when music lovers played and not just listened to music, he commented that there were "pianos all over the place in the late 1800s" and lot of people were playing ragtime.

It also had some interesting fans in Europe, one which Mayer made special note of: "Brahms liked ragtime, and it's a little known fact that he wanted to compose a ragtime piece, though he never had the time."

Joplin also represents a crossover into classical forms with his ragtime opera Treemonisha. Although not a staple of the repertoire, it was performed in Providence just last February.

a Mayer recital is that

he places works from the

and serious, and in doing

so urges listeners to

reevaluate the music.

A fitting culmination of the recital is the work of Art Tatum, whom European classical repertoire Mayer called alongside American musical "arguably the greatest compositions, both popular piano player in the history of jazz," and noted that the year 2009 will

mark the centenary of Art Tatum's birth.

Mayer has some solid support in his opinion; Tatum's admirers included Vladimir Horowitz, who would go to jazz clubs to hear Tatum, as well as Duke Ellington and Oscar Peterson.

Nearly blind from birth, Tatum worked in the Harlem stride piano tradition, which was initiated by James P. Johnson and which included Tatum's mentor Fats Waller. Most estimates, however, rate Tatum's playing far above his forebears'.

In his native Ohio, Tatum also studied classical piano with Overton Rainey.

Mayer doesn't play compositions by Tatum, who is better known for his innovative renditions of other people's music. He plays transcriptions of actual Tatum

performances. It is a practice he has honed over the years and has resulted in several recordings, the latest being an acclaimed release on Naxos in 2004.

As for his thinking behind the process, Mayer said, "I treat improvisations just like classical music – I keep the spirit but play the notes exactly as they are on the record.

"I am not a jazz artist, so I don't improvise. Jazz people don't agree with me because, for them, improvisation is axiomatic."

Mayer's idea of recreation may not be too far from what Tatum might think, as the prominent jazz artist would sometimes repeat his performances almost note by note.

His interest in Tatum's work had its origins in a fascination with Fats Waller, whom Mayer called his "first love."

He remarked, "I had not heard any recordings of Tatum until I was 16. I liked listening to his records and began transcribing them. I found Tatum to be more difficult and complex than Waller."

Mayer then touched on some of Tatum's sources, which took on an entirely new character in the jazz pianist's hands. "Tatum growing up in the 20s heard a lot of popular semi-classical music and quoted it," said Mayer. "He quoted Narcissus by Ethelbert Nevin [a now virtually forgotten American composer who was honored with a U.S. postage stamp]. That piece was played by my grandparents and many piano students. It sold an incredible number of copies.

"Tatum also used Dvorák's Humoresque, a light-hearted, witty piece that was as popular 50 years ago What's unique about

as the Stars Wars theme is now."

Mayer, who currently teaches piano at the University of Denver, is appearing as part of the Adams Foundation Piano Recital Series. The goal of the Adams

Foundation is to enhance opportunities for recitals, favoring smaller venues pre-selected for their fine acoustics and featuring artists who do some of their best work in intimate settings.

For concertgoers who would like to spend a Sunday afternoon readjusting some of their musical perceptions, Steven Mayer should have a lot to offer. Who knows? It may even readjust your CD (or MP3) collection.

Tickets for Steven Mayer are \$25. For your convenience, tickets can be purchased as follows: in advance via Visa or MasterCard by calling (401) 456-8144 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays; online at www. ric.edu/pfa; or at the box office in the lobby of the appropriate performance venue, which will be open for sales two hours prior to performance start time.

# Bookmarks

## RIC alum, first-time author details "lifesaving" decisions

By Gannon McHale '85

McHale, author of a new book, Stealth Boat – Fighting the Cold War



**GANNON MCHALE** 

in a Fast Attack Submarine, attended Rhode Island College as an undergrad from 1972-75, then returned to earn a BA in 1985. A member of RIC Theatre in

the 70s, he was known back then as Bill McHale, but changed his first name to Gannon (his mother's maiden name) when membership in the Actor's Equity Association required a name change. He credits Jim Bierden, a RIC professor emeritus, with helping him to complete his degree at the College.

McHale will be at Books-onthe-Square on Angell Street in Providence at 2 p.m. on Oct. 18 for a lecture/reading/book signing event.

Three decisions I made in late 1965 and early 1966 changed my life forever. The first was to quit Providence College. The second was to join the Navy, and the third was to volunteer for the submarine service.

The first two decisions proved to be lifesavers and the third led to this book.

As an actor, I have been in the storytelling business for 30 years, and the idea for this book came from one of my old shipmates who suggested that I "write down all those old sea stories." Of course, the stories he referred to were couched in secrecy for

many years, but the Freedom of Information Act and publications like The Hunt for Red October and Blind Man's Bluff had opened the door a bit. So, I decided to try.

The next step was to realize that any attempt on my part to single handedly reconstruct a timeline of events that took place so long ago was surely a fool's errand. So, I contacted a number of my shipmates, interviewed them either by telephone, in person or via email. I found men whom I had not spoken to in 40 years and was pleasantly surprised that they and many others were more than willing to contribute to the project.

Almost all the books about submarines have been written by

retired officers. I wanted my book to be an enlisted man's view of the submarine service. I worked very hard to capture what it was like in early 1967 to be assigned to the newest and most advanced piece of submarine technology in the world; what that boat and the crew were like the first year, and the incredible

> difference a year later after a change in the command structure. The difference was so dramatic that no enlisted man would ever forget it, and it is proof positive that leadership does matter!

It took a little over four months to complete the first draft, which was submitted to the Naval **Institute Press** 

in May of 2007. I finally received a contract offer just as I came face to face with the biggest medical crisis of my life. In early November, I was diagnosed with Stage IV-a Squamous Cell Carcinoma, a curable form of skin cancer. In December, I began combined radiation and chemotherapy treatments at the VA hospital in Brooklyn. I had until March 1 to produce a finished manuscript, but I knew the radiation and chemo would take its toll on me physically. So, I worked diligently all through December and submitted the manuscript in early January, just before I was hospitalized for six weeks. I then lost 50 pounds, aged 10 years, and when I was discharged I looked like I had spent a year in Dachau. After that it was

very touch and go for a while, but finally the tumor was gone and there was no evidence of disease.

That period in the hospital last winter was the longest and darkest of my life, and if I hadn't had this book as a light at the end of the tunnel; if I didn't have this story of some great men, and a couple of extraordinary men, the kind that come along only once in a generation; if all I had to look forward to this past February was an uncertain future as an actor, I'm not sure I could have made it.

Years ago, when my father was still alive we had one of those "truth-telling" conversations that you eventually have with your parents. He told me that I had broken his heart when I quit college back in '65. I explained to him that quitting college probably saved my life because it took me off an educational path that would have ended with graduation in May of 1968 as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army, two months after my 21st birthday and four months after the beginning of the Tet Offensive. At that point in the war, "second looeys" had a 15-minute life expectancy "in country." Three of my high school classmates finished that path in 1968. All three went to Southeast Asia. Only one came back.

Joining the Navy saved my life as well because it made me eligible for health care through the Veteran's Administration at a point in my life when I needed it most. And finally, volunteering for the submarine service provided me not only with the greatest adventure of my life, but the experience and the friendships of a lifetime, all of which is recalled in this book. As I look back on 40 years ago, I wouldn't have it any other way.

## **Proactive Soccer** is born at RIC

By Marah Roach Staff Writer

When thinking of soccer, one might picture superstars David Beckham and Mia Hamm, but two Rhode Island College employees, Stephen Cooke and Paul Janaway M '03, are becoming well known for their soccer instruction.

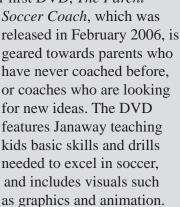
Cooke, a senior information technologist in User Support Services, and Janaway, a physical education teacher at the Henry Barnard School, have produced two instructional soccer DVDs. Most recently, they released Soccer

Tricks, which teaches soccer players 25 different tricks. Both Cooke and Janaway are from England, where soccer is the sport of choice.

"When you look at other soccer tricks DVDs they're very expensive, and in many cases very over

produced," said Cooke. "There's a lot of fluff before you actually get to what it's about. That's what we didn't do; we just concentrated on getting to the point."

Their first DVD, The Parent



Some of the children in the DVD were former HBS students of Janaway's, but all were selected based on their patience and ability to focus, rather than their skill.

While filming, Cooke and Janaway faced obstacles like time management and shooting with two different

editing process took about a year.

The idea for their company, Proactive Soccer: Thinking Ahead of the Game, came not only from their love of the sport, but also

because Janaway would often be asked to coach, something he had done for 26 years. He didn't have the time to personally coach, so Cooke suggested sharing Janaway's knowledge of soccer by making a film of him instructing.

They met several years ago at RIC through the simple act of holding a door open. Cooke held the door for Janaway, and when Cooke heard "thank you" he immediately recognized Janaway's accent.

"We are from the same area of England and share a common interest in soccer. His background in computer and films complemented my desire to develop and showcase soccer in the USA," explained Janaway.

Soccer fans might soon be seeing a lot more of the two: they are currently in negotiations to sell multiple DVD copies to an instructional soccer league in New York, in which there are over 120 teams. The East Side Sports League in Providence has already purchased The Parent Soccer Coach.

They are also considering making Soccer Tricks 2.

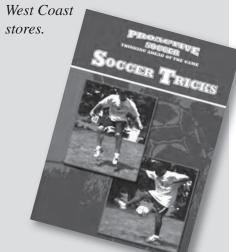
Janaway's basic lesson for the soccer coach? "In English class you learn letters to make words,

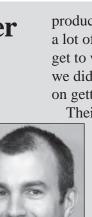
then put words together to make sentences, then use sentences to tell a story. Drills and practices are our letters and words, and the game is our story."

Cooke and Janaway marketed the DVDs on the You Tube and MySpace websites. The clips on You Tube have received about 50,000 hits so far.

One customer review of *The* Parent Soccer Coach stated, "As a parent, a soccer enthusiast, and a coach, I watched this, learned from it, and can recommend it. The techniques and instructional style are sound. Get it before the other team does."

Both DVDs can be purchased on Ebay, Amazon, www.proactivesoccer.com and in





STEPHEN COOKE



**PAUL JANAWAY** 

cameras, one at ground level and one elevated. The filming and

# Cycle patrol adds to RIC police visibility on campus

By LuzJennifer Martinez '08 Staff Writer

This fall, Safety and Security at Rhode Island College is combing the campus on a whole new set of wheels. Along with traditional patrol cars, a newly acquired Trek mountain bike is propelling designated patrol officers around RIC. The bicycle, which was donated by the RIC Athletics Department, allows patrol officers Frank Duffy and Gary Petrarca to reach remote places like the campus quad.

Fred Ghio, deputy director of RIC Safety and Security, explained that Duffy makes rounds on the bike during the first shift, from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., with Petrarca riding from 3:30-7:30 p.m. A third shift from 11:30 p.m.-7:30 a.m. is still being planned. The bicycle will also need the necessary lighting to ensure secure nighttime patrol.

The bike patrol will enable offers officers reach their destinations more quickly and efficiently, and allow them to be easily spotted by everyone on campus. "The officers [on bicycle] are very visible," said Ghio. "If students need assistance, they can just flag them down."

The patrol, which will take place only during warm weather months, provides what Duffy called "good PR."

For the officers on the bike, the same rules of duty apply, and students and staff are, as always, encouraged to ask for help when necessary. "If there is a car problem, we have battery packs to help," said Ghio. "We can't put devices on cars because of liabilities but we can help assist [them] in how to install [the devices]. If they are locked out of their cars, we don't get involved but we can call Triple A or other services for help."

So far, the response from the



RIC patrol officer Frank Duffy uses a mountain bike to make rounds.

campus community has been positive. Duffy, who is happy to be interacting with people while getting some essential exercise, recalled how those around campus have given him a smile and wave as he rides by. "People tell you it's a good idea, since you are seen [all the time]," he said.

During this time of transition at RIC, with the induction of new President Nancy Carriuolo, it seems only natural for the idea to have surfaced. Ghio recalled how Don Tencher, director of athletics and recreation at RIC, spun the suggestion for the two-wheel patrol over to campus police, who had been discussing how to increase police visibility.

Ghio said Tencher offered to purchase the bike through Athletic Department funds and was given a wholesale price on essential bike equipment from NBX Bikes store owner and RIC alum Matt Bodziony '93.

Tencher is confident that the patrolling will foster a sense of well being within the campus community. "This is a model on campus for what is happening in town – community policing. You can take a team approach to anything and that's what this is – a team approach to making the campus safer."

Grant Cont

11 found that only 24 percent of Rhode Island's students scored proficient or better, including only 17 percent in grade 11.

The grant will provide affordable tools for science inquiry, including the ability to use computer models, and it will involve scientists at RIC and the other institutions of higher learning in K-12 education. Also, class activities and professional developments will be designed and implemented through equal partnerships between higher education and K-12 faculty.

De Oliveira said that in addition to the STEM Center being based at RIC, the fact that the College is involving its school of education (the largest in the state) made the proposal an attractive candidate to receive the grant.

"The participation of the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development, under the leadership of [interim dean] Roger Eldridge, has been essential, since this project intends to improve the way we teach science and train teachers to teach science," de Oliveira said.

At least 15 RIC faculty members will be involved in teaching courses and teaching teachers through the project, according to de Oliveira.

The RITES project's core partners are RIC, URI, Johnston Public Schools and the Rhode Island Department of Education. Supporting partners include Brown University, the Community College of Rhode Island, the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation and the Concord Consortium. The Education Alliance at Brown University will evaluate the project.

In addition to de Oliveira, other principal investigators are Daniel P. Murray (co-lead), a geosciences professor at URI; Kathryn Crowley, assistant superintendent for science and technology in Johnston schools; Peter McLaren, science and technology specialist with the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; and Robert F. Tinker, president of the Concord Consortium. Ten other RIC faculty members are listed as senior personnel on the project.



RIC associate professor Glênisson de Oliveira (center), a principal investigator for a new National Science Foundation-funded project, discusses the initiative at a ceremony marking the NSF grant at Johnston High School on Sept. 25.



University of Rhode Island professor Daniel P. Murray, another principal investigator, addresses ceremony attendees.



Gov. Donald L. Carcieri speaks at the ceremony.

The grant, which will begin this month, is for five years, and the first and smallest cohort of teachers from five high schools and their associated middle schools will participate in professional development and graduate courses next summer.



Rhode Island Congressman Jim Langevin '90 HD '05 (right) and political reporter Jim Hummel participate in a town hall meeting at Adams Library on Sept. 4. Langevin fielded questions from members of campus community.

# Congressman Langevin discusses issues at RIC town hall meeting

By Alicia Vanasse '08, Staff Writer

Rhode Island College began the political campaign season with a visit from Congressman Jim Langevin (D-RI) of the second congressional district, who participated in a town hall meeting at Adams Library on Sept. 4. Langevin fielded questions that were on the minds of the campus community, and many of the topics discussed mirrored national discourse.

Approximately 100 RIC students, faculty and staff were on hand for the event, many eager to ask questions.

"[Langevin's] long career in public service began here at Rhode Island College after being elected to Student Community Government," said RIC President Nancy Carriuolo. Langevin, a 1990 graduate of RIC, said that his involvement at the College motivated him seek election for political office.

Jim Hummel, political reporter and host of the event, characterized Langevin

as "a newcomer who had no fear going down the halls of Congress" when he was first elected to office. Langevin has since taken on issues such as healthcare, the environment, stem cell research, and fuel costs. He also supported the Higher Education Opportunity Act, where he has advocated for the expansion of Pell Grants that provide funding for qualified students.

Langevin is well known in Congress for his stand on healthcare. "I believe every American should receive the same healthcare as members of Congress," said Langevin, who went on to say that 80 percent of the uninsured are working families.

The discussion then moved to national and foreign policy. When asked at what point can the United States exit Iraq, Langevin had a straightforward response. "We need to do it now," said Langevin. "Iraq needs to be more accountable for their own society. The

time to bring our troops home is now."

Langevin also made predictions about the state of the nation's economy. "Our economy has not been challenged this way since the Great Depression, which will affect gas and food prices, ultimately having a ripple effect on the public," he said.

Students from nursing, communications, history and women's studies classes attended the meeting, asked questions and took an active role in being informed voters. Assuming an active role in government is one of the major themes Langevin has maintained, a theme that was rooted in his involvement here at the College.

"Register to vote, write to your congressman, know how the process works," said Langevin. "Government can work two ways: decisions can be made for you or you can take part in the process."

# Eleventh Annual Multi-Cultural Conference and Curriculum Resource Fair



# RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE November 1, 2008

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Donovan Dining Center

## Teaching for Change: Privilege, Power and Possibilities

Keynote Speaker:

## Dr. Peggy McIntosh

Author, "White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack"

Founder and Co-Director,
National S.E.E.D. Project on Inclusive Curriculum
(Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity)

Conference registration materials are available online at:

## www.ric.edu/promisingpractices

\* payments must be postmarked by Friday, October 24, 2008 \*

#### Conference Fees

	Pre-Registration	Onsite Registration
RIC undergraduate student	\$10	\$15
Undergraduate students from other campuses	\$15	\$25
RIC graduate student	\$20	\$30
Graduate students from other campuses	\$25	\$35
All other attendees	\$40	\$50

Limited scholarships to cover the cost of registration are available for RIC students: Please contact Patricia Giammarco, Office of Affirmative Action, Rhode Island College, Ph. (401) 456-8218, pgiammarco@ric.edu.

## \* You must register for the conference online \*

In addition, you must mail in your payment and a print-out of your online registration postmarked by October 24 in order to secure your registration.

For further information, please contact Promising Practices Co-Chairs Dr. Ellen Bigler — (401) 456-8385 or ebigler@ric.edu Dr. Lesley Bogad — (401) 456-4635 or lbogad@ric.edu

Dialogue on Diversity Co-Chairs Maria Lawrence, Daniel Scott and David Thomas

## About the keynote speaker

Peggy McIntosh, who will deliver the keynote address at the Nov. 1 Promising Practices conference, is associate director of the Wellesley Centers for

Women at Wellesley College in Massachusetts. She is founder and co-director of the United States S.E.E.D. (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity) Project on Inclusive Curriculum.

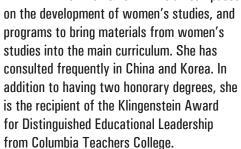
McIntosh consults widely in the United States and throughout the world with college and school faculty who are

creating more gender-fair and multicultural curricula. In 1988, she published the ground-breaking article, "White Privilege and Male Privilege: A Personal Account of Coming to See Correspondences through Work on Women's Studies." This analysis and its shorter form, "White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack," (1989), have been

instrumental in putting the dimension of privilege into discussions of gender, race and sexuality in the United States.

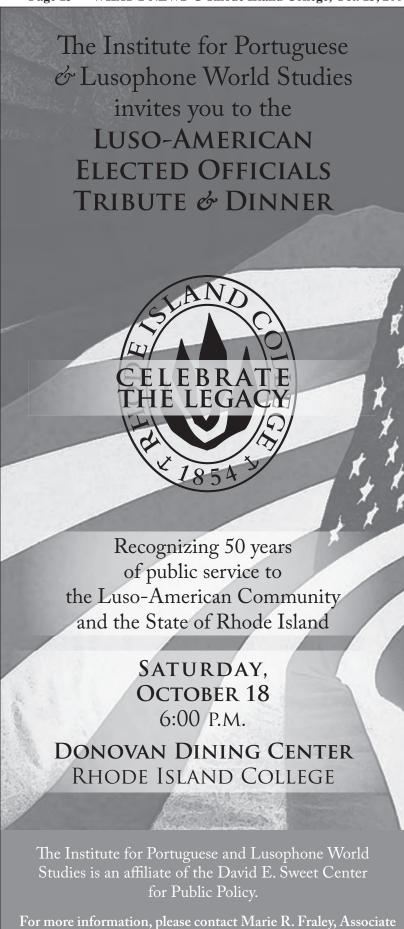
McIntosh has taught at the Brearley

School, Harvard University, Trinity College (Washington, D.C.), the University of Denver, the University of Durham (England) and Wellesley College. She is co-founder of the Rocky Mountain Women's Institute and has been consulting editor of the Sage: A Scholarly Journal on Black Women. She has consulted with women on 22 Asian campuses





PEGGY McINTOSH



Director, at (401) 456-8476 or mfraley@ric.edu.

## **RIC hosts STAR program**

On August 24 and 25, 40 adult education practitioners from around Rhode Island came to RIC to take part in the first segment of year-long training in a program called STAR (Student Achievement in Reading).

STAR is a U.S. Department of Education-funded project that translates reading research into usable teaching strategies to improve adult reading instruction. This pilot year is coordinated by the R.I. Adult Education Professional Development Center (the PD Center), an affiliate of the David E. Sweet Center for Public Policy at RIC, with generous support from the Office of Adult Education at the R.I. Department of Education.

Through this intensive professional development program, STAR-trained teachers will bring research-based knowledge of assessment, curriculum and instruction into their intermediatelevel adult education classrooms.

For more information on the STAR program, or on the PD Center, please contact Jill Holloway at (401) 456-2833 or jholloway@ric.edu.

## Call for honorary degree nominations

The Honorary Degrees Committee of the Council of **Rhode Island College invites** members of the College community to nominate individuals worthy of consideration for honorary degrees to be awarded at the 2009 graduate and undergraduate commencement ceremonies and at other times as may be appropriate. Further information is available online at www.ric. edu/honorary/. Deadline for submission is 5 p.m., Friday, Oct. 24. Electronic submission is preferred, or nominations may be forwarded to Roberts Hall 405. All nominations must remain confidential throughout the process. Direct questions to Michael Smith, chair, Honorary Degrees Committee, at msmith@ric.edu or (401) 456-8004.

# PawSox curriculum guide brings baseball into local K-8 classrooms



From left, RIC faculty members Bennett Lombardo, Kerri Tunnicliffe, Robin Kirkwood Auld and Robert Cvornyek discuss the PawSox curriculum guide that they developed.

## By Hillary Feeney '10 Staff Writer Chico State Exchange Student

Baseball fever will infect area elementary and middle school classrooms soon.

In math class, students will calculate box score statistics. In science class, students will identify baseball players' centers of gravity and their bat weights. In social studies class, students will research the history of the Pawtucket Red Sox. And in language arts class, students will learn how to write a news lead about a baseball game.

Through a partnership with the PawSox, four professors from Rhode Island College have designed a curriculum guide that coincides with School Celebration Days at McCoy Stadium and applies baseball to students from kindergarten to eighth grade.

"The PawSox are interested in growing the game, even though they sell out day after day," said Robert Cvornyek, professor of history and secondary education. "They want to get young people interested and export it around the world to keep the game healthy and viable."

The curriculum guide covers the four core areas of elementary and middle school education. Each lesson plan includes ways to apply the lesson to an actual game.

Robin Kirkwood Auld, associate professor of health and physical education, thinks that this curriculum guide will help students grasp classroom concepts and harness their energy in a positive way.

"Kids are always asking when they are going to use this 'science stuff,'" Kirkwood Auld said. "This gives them a real-life way to apply it. Students will be excited to learn about spin when they realize it relates to curve balls."

The idea of bringing baseball into the academic classroom stems from a curriculum guide made for the Toledo Mud Hens, a minor league baseball team in Ohio. When the PawSox contacted Bennett Lombardo, professor of physical education, about creating a similar guide for their team, he gathered several of his colleagues.

Kerri Tunnicliffe, assistant professor of physical education, and Kirkwood Auld chose to collaborate because of their past experience with teaching elementary school.

The RIC professors designed a math curriculum for the PawSox

and partnered with Noel Chartier and Joanne Diggle, third grade teachers from Central Falls, who implemented the lessons in their classes last year. Chartier and Diggle provided feedback about the math curriculum, which influenced the lesson plans for the PawSox guide.

Beth Broskie, a RIC graduate student in history, helped design the social studies section as a project for Cvornyek. The professors added new lesson plans for the science and language arts sections to the contributions from Chartier, Diggle and Broskie to make the final guide.

"This partnership makes the curriculum come alive for the students," Tunnicliffe said. "Now they can go see the players at the School Celebration Days and graph how their batting average has increased over the year."

Cvornyek will use the curriculum guide for training practicum students and student teachers. Each lesson fits Rhode Island Grade Span Expectations and Grade Level Expectations.

By creating a curriculum guide for use across multiple grades, the RIC professors hope to get children excited about physical activity and spread knowledge of baseball to those that have had little exposure to it.

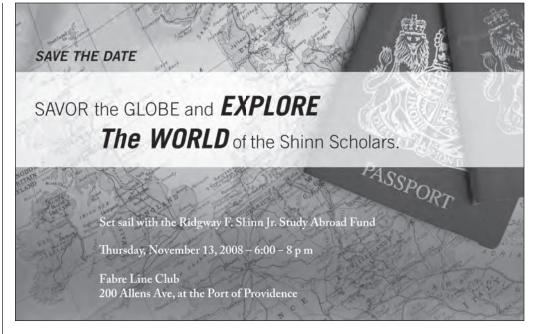
"You can learn a lot by taking a look at changes in sports over time," Cvornyek said. "The major struggles that happen in American life are often played out in different arenas: political, economic, social, artistic and athletic."

By using this interactive curriculum guide in class, teachers and students will explore the arena of baseball from a variety of angles, Tunnicliffe said.

The PawSox will update the guide yearly with information about their players and statistics, according to Kirkwood Auld. "Teachers that use it are encouraged to add new ideas," she said.

The curriculum guide will be available to teachers on the PawSox website once it is standardized with other major league baseball websites. Tunnicliffe is passing out compact discs of the material for teachers to use until then.

"We are hoping it goes beyond just the schools in Pawtucket," Cvornyek said. "This curriculum guide can help reawaken the importance of baseball in history."



Shinn fall benefit to provide a taste of the world abroad on Nov. 13

## By Elli Panichas Shinn Fund Marketing Committee

The Ridgway F. Shinn Jr. Study Abroad Fund is hosting a fall benefit to provide scholarships for Rhode Island College students to study abroad. Join us for a night of international food and fun entertainment on Tuesday, Nov. 13, at 6 p.m. at the Fabre Line Club on 200 Allens Avenue at the Port of Providence.

All are invited to savor the tastes and textures of cuisines where Shinn Scholars have studied – Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and South America.

Eno Fine Wines' sommelier, Nick Shagrue, will provide a tasting of intriguing Australian wines. International recording artist Cory Pesaturo will offer a celebration of the rhythms and tempos of the continents. His extensive résumé includes appearances at the White House for President and Mrs. Clinton on four occasions.

The Shinn Fund Marketing Committee, chaired by RIC alumna Mersine (Chris) Florio '63, has added elements of fun and mystery to the event. Guests may sip Arabic coffee, and then have their fortune read in the cup, all sweetened by fabulous and exotic desserts they can enjoy at the event, or take home. And, they can partake in conversation with Shinn scholars who have studied abroad.

There is also an opportunity to

win fabulous prizes such as a flying adventure to Martha's Vineyard for lunch, Trinity Theatre and dinner on the town, four performances for two at PPAC, a gourmet dinner provided for your home, a dinner at City Elegance for two, pottery by Marguerite Hall '76 and an opportunity to be a star at a PawSox game, where you'll throw out the first pitch and watch the game from box seats.

It's a deliciously delightful, fun-filled evening for all! Tickets are limited so reserve early.

Tickets are \$30 per person or \$55 for two. Reserve early; seating is limited. To reserve, call Julie Matthews in the Development Office at (401) 456-8087. Visa and MasterCard accepted. Raffle tickets may be purchased in advance by calling Greg Grant '93 at (401) 486-7722 or Stan Lachut at (401) 935-1940.

The Ridgway F. Shinn Jr. Study Abroad Fund provides income to support undergraduate students in planned study outside the United States. It was created by Ridgway F. Shinn Jr. and his wife, Clarice '67, with the support of friends, colleagues and former students in 1987 upon his retirement after 29 years at RIC as a professor, dean and a vice president. Through this academic year, 52 RIC undergraduates will have received over \$162,000 in scholarship aid to study abroad.



On Sept. 10, part of RIC's parking lot A became a farmer's market, open to campus personnel, students and the surrounding community. The market is open on Wednesdays from 4-6 p.m. through Oct. 29.

## Debate Watch Cont

in the debate

would actually change viewers' minds. He posited that undecided voters would base their decision on the candidates' character traits.

Harold Metts, Rhode Island senator and Baptist deacon, feared that some voters would base their choices on the candidates' ethnicities. Elizabeth Roberts, lieutenant governor of Rhode Island, thought that politicians were spending too much time emphasizing their differences in an attempt to win the election. Scott Avedisian, mayor of Warwick, wondered if the progressives would stick to their philosophy or retreat to their old ways for fear of "breaking new ground."

Jonathan Scott, challenger of Congressional incumbent Patrick Kennedy for District 1 in Rhode Island, thought that the questions and controversies could be solved by voters' influence.

"The roadmap out of this problem is the Constitution," Scott said. "Bring the power to the people rather than to the government."

DebateWatch also featured Carol Mumford, Republican state representative; Vincent "Buddy" Cianci, WPRO-AM radio talk show host and ABC-6 political analyst; Daniel McKee, mayor of Cumberland; and Charles Lombardi, mayor of North Providence.

DebateWatch gave attendees the chance to voice their opinions about the candidates. Most of the audience members had already decided which candidate to support when asked by investigative reporter Jim Hummel, host for the evening. Still, their questions indicated a need for reassurance from their candidates of choice about how they will address the issues facing the country.

A RIC student working on a degree in education voiced concerns about graduating from college in debt and being unable to find a job.

An Amnesty International representative wondered what the candidates were "going to do about the blatant and obvious violations of the



Media experts, from left, Bill Rappeleye, WJAR-10 political reporter; Vincent "Buddy" Cianci, talk show host and political analyst; and *Providence Journal* reporter, Daniel Barberisi, discuss the expectations of the Sept. 26 presidential debate, during the town hall meeting of DebateWatch 2008 held that night at Donovan Dining Center.

Declaration of Human Rights."

An Obama supporter demanded an answer to why citizens' rights were being stripped by the government. "Some of my freedoms were taken away during the Bush administration after the Sept. 11 attacks. I'd like them back."

These concerns are an important aspect of having an "army of informed and active citizens" according to Kathleen Connell, AARP Rhode Island state director and former secretary of state. AARP co-sponsored the College's *DebateWatch* as part of its Divided We Fail healthcare platform.

"We need to bring the voices of millions of Americans to bear on the next administration and Congress," Connell said. "Voters should send the message that the time for partisan politics is over. Washington needs to end the gridlock and fix what needs fixing now."

Following the town hall forum, the audience watched the first of three planned debates in which presidential candidates John McCain and Barack Obama offered solutions to the problems that need fixing.

Attendees then shared their opinions and reactions to the debate through small-group discussions led by trained facilitators. Feedback from the focus groups was released the next day to the Commission on Presidential Debates and media sources.



The Impact of the Media on Presidential Politics as told by members of the media during a Sept. 18 forum in Alger Hall brought, from left, WRNI news director John Carpilio; Frank Coletta, award-winning WJAR-10 news anchor and RIC adjunct professor; radio talk show host and political analyst Vincent "Buddy" Cianci; and Jim Baron, *Pawtucket Times* reporter and columnist.

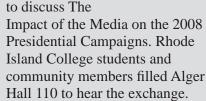
# From pregnancy to pigs: how media impacts the presidential campaign

By Hillary Feeney '10 Staff Writer Chico State Exchange Student

From the rampant publicity surrounding Sarah Palin's pregnant teenage daughter to Barack Obama's "lipstick on a pig" comment, members of the local media expressed concern about the quality of campaign news coverage in a Rhode Island College forum last month.

On Sept. 18, a panel of four media guests, which included Jim

Baron, Pawtucket Times political reporter and columnist; Vincent "Buddy" Cianci, WPRO-AM radio talk show host and ABC-6 political analyst; Frank Coletta, WJAR-10 news anchor; and John Carpilio, WRNI news director, gathered as part of the DebateWatch 2008 initiative



"There are two things people either love or hate, or love to hate: politics and the media," said Jane Fusco, RIC's director of news and public relations, as an introduction.

The panel addressed the changing face of the media and its effect on the presidential election.

The media has ineffectively covered the candidates' stances on important issues such as the war and the failing economy, said Valerie Endress, the panel moderator and a RIC associate professor of political communications.

Instead, the panelists agreed that media coverage has dwelled on personal stories such as the pregnancy of Republican vice-presidential candidate Palin's 17-year-old daughter and Democratic presidential candidate Obama's "lipstick on a pig" comment, which some misconstrued as an insult to Palin.

"News coverage shifts significantly when some tasty morsel of information appears, even if it has little to do with the campaign," Endress said.

Endress recalled a time when the journalistic standard was to use small facts to reveal big truths. She asked the panel members if this goal is still relevant in today's fast-paced media.

Baron seemed skeptical.
"You have to give the people what they want: sexy issues, horserace and polls. People will tune in and watch that," Baron said. "The media either has to roll

with what is popular, unfortunately, or force feed audiences dry politics."

Cianci insisted media has the responsibility to uncover stories, even unpopular ones.

"The media has an obligation to frame issues," Cianci said.
"The Constitutional foundation of this country enables free speech and protects the pamphleteer

who speaks out."

Valerie Endress, associate

professor of communications,

moderates the Sept. 18 panel.

The consolidation of the media into fewer outlets has compromised its character, Coletta said. "As corporations take over the media, the newsroom is losing its separate integrity in exchange for profit," he said.

Coletta and Baron also cited shortcomings in the public's attention span as part of the issue. Baron suggested that the electorate needs political training before its thirst for accurate reporting dries up completely.

Cianci charged many talk show hosts and news programs with further confusing audience members through their lack of balance.

"There are many people with agendas on the TV and radio masquerading as journalists," Cianci said. "For those hosts, the facts that the audience needs just get in the way."

Carpilio remained optimistic by affirming the media's commitment to providing accurate political knowledge during the campaigns and the public's ability to digest it.

He added that audience members "need to be selective and critical" when hearing and reading news.



*To the RIC community:* 

A class in the School of Management at RIC is conducting a research project on continuing education in the state of Rhode Island, and more specifically here at RIC.

To achieve the desired results, your help is needed. Please fill out a survey at the following link:

www.whatsnewssurvey.wetpaint.com/.

It will take about five minutes to complete, and help the class – and ultimately the College – to understand the continuing education landscape. We hope to hear from you, and also thank you in advance for your participation in this survey.

Eric Gelsomino Group Leader Market Research Group 2

